IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows; this listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-12 (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) A cooking device, comprising:
a housing;
a cooking chamber arranged in said housing, the cooking device having multiple operating modes indicating a stage of a cooking cycle and including at least a heating-up phase and a cooling phase, the heating-up and cooling phases dependent on activation and deactivation of at least one heating element;
a door on said housing for closing said cooking chamber; and
at least one control and display panel with an optical luminous display which can display the different operating modes of said cooking chamber and the on and/or off modes of said cooking chamber, wherein said luminous display includes a substantially linear luminous band and has at least one of:
a light or color intensity which is in direct relation to the temperature of said cooking chamber; and
a color which is in direct relation to the temperature of said cooking chamber.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) The cooking device according to claim 13, including said luminous display is a pulsating arrow of increasing/decreasing vertical bars.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently Amended) The cooking device according to claim ~~14~~ 13, including said illuminated length of said substantially linear luminous band is variable in relation to the temperature of said cooking chamber.

19. (Previously Presented) The cooking device according to claim 13, including said luminous display blinks or displays a running light during a self-cleaning operation of said cooking chamber, such as pyrolsis.

20. (Currently Amended) The cooking device according to claim ~~14~~ 13, including said illuminated length of said substantially linear luminous band in a heating up phase of said cooking chamber has a first band portion which displays the temperature already reached as a steady light and a second band portion which displays the temperature yet to be reached as a blinking light.

21. (Currently Amended) The cooking device according to claim ~~14~~ 13, including said door including a viewing window having a width and said luminous display having a length substantially equal to said window width.

22. (Previously Presented) The cooking device according to claim 13, including said luminous display further including a temperature scale.

23. (Previously Presented) The cooking device according to claim 13, including said luminous display further including a digital temperature display.

24. (Currently Amended) A cooking device, comprising:
a housing;
a cooking chamber arranged in said housing, the cooking device having multiple operating modes indicating a stage of a cooking cycle and including at least a heating-up phase and a cooling phase, the heating-up and cooling

phases dependent on activation and deactivation of at least one heating element;
a door on said housing for closing said cooking chamber;
at least one control and display panel having control elements for controlling operation of the cooking device and the cooking chamber, with said display panel being separate and distinct from said control elements; and
said display panel comprising an optical luminous display configured for displaying each operating mode of the cooking chamber, including at least current operating mode, residual heat present in the chamber after the cooking chamber is no longer being heated, and the on and/or off modes of said cooking chamber, wherein said luminous display includes a substantially linear luminous band and has at least one of:
a light or color intensity which is in direct relation to the temperature of said cooking chamber; and
a color which is in direct relation to the temperature of said cooking chamber.

25. (Currently Amended) A method of displaying operating conditions of a cooking device having a housing, a cooking chamber arranged in said housing, the cooking device having multiple operating modes indicating a stage of a cooking cycle and including at least a heating-up phase and a cooling phase, the heating-up and cooling phases dependent on activation and deactivation of at least one heating element, a door on said housing for closing said cooking chamber; and at least one control and display panel with an optical luminous display including a substantially linear luminous band having at least one of a light or color intensity which is in direct relation to the temperature of said cooking chamber and a color which is in direct relation to the temperature of said cooking chamber, the method comprising the acts of:
indicating the on and/or off modes of said cooking chamber with the display;
indicating the current operating mode of said cooking chamber with the display;

indicating a current temperature within the cooking chamber in the heating-up phase as a first band portion on the linear luminous band width a steady light and indicating a desired yet to be reached temperature within the cooking chamber as a second band portion with a blinking light, the illuminated length of said substantially linear luminous band being variable in relation to the temperature of said cooking chamber.

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 25, wherein said luminous display blinks or displays a running light during a self-cleaning operation of said cooking chamber, such as pyrolsis.

29. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 25, wherein said door includes a viewing window having a width and said luminous display having a length substantially equal to said window width.

30. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 25, wherein said luminous display further including a temperature scale.

31. (New) A cooking device, comprising:
a housing;
a cooking chamber arranged in said housing, the cooking device having multiple operating modes indicating a stage of a cooking cycle and including at least a heating-up phase and a cooling phase;
a door on said housing for closing said cooking chamber; and
at least one control and display panel with an optical luminous display which can display the different operating modes of said cooking chamber and the on

and/or off modes of said cooking chamber, wherein said luminous display includes a substantially linear luminous band;
wherein said door includes a viewing window having a width and said luminous display having a length substantially equal to said window width.

32. (New) A method of displaying operating conditions of a cooking device having a housing, a cooking chamber arranged in said housing, the cooking device having multiple operating modes indicating a stage of a cooking cycle and including at least a heating-up phase and a cooling phase, a door on said housing for closing said cooking chamber; and at least one control and display panel with an optical luminous display including a substantially linear luminous band, the method comprising the acts of:
indicating the on and/or off modes of said cooking chamber with the display;
indicating the current operating mode of said cooking chamber with the display;
indicating a current temperature within the cooking chamber in the heating-up phase as a first band portion on the linear luminous band width a steady light and indicating a desired yet to be reached temperature within the cooking chamber as a second band portion with a blinking light, the illuminated length of said substantially linear luminous band being variable in relation to the temperature of said cooking chamber;
wherein said door includes a viewing window having a width and said luminous display having a length substantially equal to said window width.